

Reply to Office Action dated June 1, 2006

Application No. 10/776,836

Amendment dated September 1, 2006

**Amendment to the Claims**

The following listing of claims

Listing of claims:

1. (previously presented) A vessel for filtering oil, comprising:
  - a frame defining at least one compartment;
  - a rack slidably engaged with said compartment and adapted for movement in a substantially horizontal plane into and out of said compartment; and
  - at least one candle housing removeably positioned in said rack.
2. (original) The vessel of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of filter elements suspended in said candle housing.
3. (original) The vessel of claim 2, wherein said candle housing includes a mounting plate and defines a chamber above said mounting plate.
4. (original) The vessel of claim 3, wherein each said filter element includes a permeable core that is threadably engaged to said mounting plate and is in fluid communication with said chamber.
5. (original) The vessel of claim 1, wherein said rack comprises a hollow tube.
6. (original) The vessel of claim 1, wherein said chamber is in fluid communication with said rack when said candle housing is positioned in said rack.

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7. (previously presented) A vessel for filtering oil, comprising:
  - a frame defining at least one compartment having a female connector mounted therein;
  - an inlet pipe for injecting dirty oil into said compartment;
  - a tubular rack having a male connector, wherein said rack is removeably positioned in said compartment such that said male connector engages said female connector when said rack is positioned within said compartment;
  - at least one candle housing including a plurality of filter elements removeably positioned in said rack and in fluid communication with said rack; and
  - an outlet pipe interconnected to said female connector for removing clean oil.
8. (original) The vessel of claim 7, further comprising:
  - an air purge line interconnected to said inlet pipe;
  - a sludge purge line positioned in the bottom of said compartment; and
  - an overflow line positioned in the top of said compartment.
9. (original) The vessel of claim 8, further comprising:
  - a door for enclosing said compartment when said rack is positioned in said compartment; and
  - a handle attached to said door.

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10. (original) The vessel of claim 7, wherein said candle housing includes a mounting plate for threadably engaging said filter elements.

11. (original) The vessel of claim 10, wherein said candle housing defines a chamber above said mounting plate that is in fluid communication with said filter elements.

12. (original) The vessel of claim 11, wherein said chamber is interconnected to and in fluid communication with said tubular rack.

13. (original) The vessel of claim 12, wherein said filter elements comprise a permeable core surrounded by compressed filter media.

14. (original) The vessel of claim 13, wherein said core is threadably engaged to said mounting plate.

15. (original) The vessel of claim 14, further comprising a header interconnected to said inlet pipe for distributing dirty oil around said compartment.

16. (original) The vessel of claim 7, wherein said compartment includes a sloped floor pan.

17. (original) The vessel of claim 7, wherein said frame defines a plurality of said compartments, each said compartment including a pair of said tubular racks.

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